

JUL 18 2006

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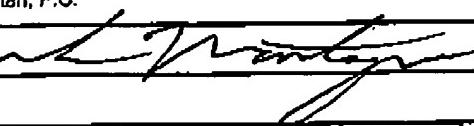
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Application Number	10/522,442
Filing Date	January 18, 2005
First Named Inventor	YOKOO
Art Unit	3682
Examiner Name	Lenard A. Footland

Attorney Docket Number 24530-007

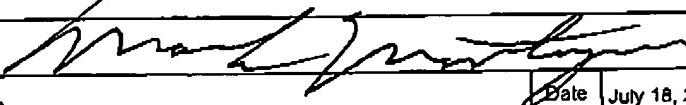
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Cowan Liebowitz & Latman, P.C.		
Signature			
Printed name	Mark Montague		
Date	July 18, 2006	Reg. No.	36,612

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Attorney Ref. 24530-007
Serial No.: 10/522,442
Art Unit: 3682

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshinari YOKOO

Group Art Unit: 3682

Serial No.: 10/522,442

Examiner: Footland, Lenard A.

Filed: January 18, 2005

For: **DYNAMIC PRESSURE BEARING DEVICE, SPINDLE MOTOR, DISK DRIVE DEVICE, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING DYNAMIC PRESSURE BEARING DEVICE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the office action dated June 26, 2006.

In the Office Action, a requirement was made under 35 U.S.C. §121 to elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-17, drawn to a bearing, or the invention of Group II, claims 18-21, drawn to a process of making a bearing. In response, the applicant hereby elects claims 1-17 of Group I to be examined on their merits. Although claims 18-21 of Group II are withdrawn from consideration herein, the applicant reserves the right to present these claims in a divisional application.

A requirement also was made under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species. The Examiner identified the following distinct species: the species of Figure(s) 1-2,

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the species of Figure 13, the species of Figure 14, the species of Figure 15, the species of Figure 16, the species of Figure 17, and the species of Figure 18.

The following table identifies each of the species identified by the Examiner and the claims readable thereon.

Species	Claims
Figs. 1-2	Claims 1-17
Fig. 13	Claims 1-17
Fig. 14	Claims 1-17
Fig. 15	Claims 1-17
Fig. 16	Claims 1-17
Fig. 17	Claims 2-6, 12-17
Fig. 18	Claims 2-6, 12-17

Applicant respectfully elects the species of Figures 1-2 for further prosecution on its merits. Thus, claims 1-17, readable on the species of Figures 1-2, should be examined on their merits.

The applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to those claims in the instant application which are eventually not examined on the merits.

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Art Unit: 3682

An early and favorable examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Mark Montague
Reg. No. 36,612

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The undersigned hereby certifies that the abov-captioned correspondence is being transferred by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 18, 2006.


Mark Montague